

**PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED 2007 BUDGET
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2006; 7:00 P.M.
NEW WINDSOR TOWN HALL**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Green, Councilman Finnegan, Councilwoman Mullarkey, Councilwoman Weyant, Councilwoman Biasotti

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT: Town Attorney Blythe, Highway Superintendent Fayo, Police Chief Biasotti, Comptroller Reis

SALUTE TO FLAG

Supervisor Green called to order a Public Hearing regarding the proposed 2007 Budget.

The Town Clerk presented proof of publication as required by law.

Larry Reis, the Comptroller gave a presentation to explain the town budget process. He then congratulated the Town Board on being able to decrease the Town's tax rate by six cents per thousand. Supervisor Green asked if anyone had any comments to make on the proposed budget.

Rebecca Jones had a question regarding the fire district rates. Since the fire districts are now required to hold a public hearing for their budgets, she wanted to know how that change came about. Supervisor Green said that the state is now requiring that each fire district hold a public hearing before October 10 of next year prior to presenting their budgets to the Town but that the Town still has no oversight over their budgets and will remain as a conduit for the fire districts' money.

Jim Kimball said that after reviewing the preliminary budget he has questions regarding the Recreation and Playgrounds budgets. He feels that there are large increases in those budgeted amounts from last year. He also said that the proposed budget is showing a surplus amount of 2.4 million dollars and he wondered what it was being used for.

Larry Reis explained that the town is using unexpended surplus to keep this year's tax rate down and that is coming out of prior years' surplus. As far as the Recreation budget going up so much, the majority of that extra money is for the development of Mt. Airy Park, it is going to be for one or two years only. Mr. Reis said that the Town needed to develop the park as quickly as possible or else the Town would not get the money back that has been put into development. The figures that have been presented in the General Fund include all those recreation charges and when the park has been developed, it will bring in revenues to offset the cost, but at this point there are no revenues coming in. Supervisor Green said that the Town still has 2.4 million dollars in surplus, not including any surplus from this year and a good deal of Mt. Airy Park comes from recreation fees- for every building permit that the Town issues, we get \$2,000 and we have a balance close to \$450,000. There has also been some department personnel changed around, and some of that money was reallocated so what is not seen in one spot is now seen in another.

Diane Newlander wondered if the town received the \$5 million from the sale of the Stewart land and if so where did the money go. Supervisor Green said that we have received the money and part of it is our surplus.

Rebecca Jones questioned a Recreation vehicle she had seen and whether or not the Recreation Director had his own town vehicle. Supervisor Green said that the Recreation vehicle she was talking about was an old ambulance which had been outfitted for use by the Recreation department. The Recreation director is currently using an old police vehicle but next year he would be getting a pickup truck. She also had a question about a \$4,000 buyout which was mentioned at Monday's workshop meeting. Supervisor Green said that town employees have had the buyout but it was in the PBA contract at the old buyout figure and the wording needed to be corrected.

Bill Steidle asked the Supervisor to explain again what happened to the \$5 million received from the sale of the Stewart lands. Supervisor Green said that it went into surplus. Bill Steidle asked if any of the money was earmarked for open space funding. The Supervisor said that the Town Board has discussed it but no definite plans have been made, they have also discussed open space planning with the City of Newburgh.

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Motion by Councilman Finnegan, seconded by Councilwoman Mullarkey that the Town Board of the Town of New Windsor close the Public Hearing regarding the 2007 Budget at 7:35 P.M.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Motion Carried: 5-0

Motion by Councilman Finnegan, seconded by Councilwoman Mullarkey that the Town Board of the Town of New Windsor adopt as follows:

WHEREAS, the New Windsor Town Board met on November 1, 2006 as specified in the Notice of Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget and heard all persons interested in same; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that said Board does hereby adopt the Budget, as the Annual Budget of the Town of New Windsor for the fiscal year beginning the first day of January 2007, and that said Budget as so adopted be entered in detail in the Minutes of this meeting and is hereto attached, marked #1; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk of the Town of New Windsor shall certify in triplicate, copies of said Budget as adopted, pursuant to Section 202, Subdivision 2 of Town Law and shall file one certified copy in her office and transmit two (2) certified copies to the Town Supervisor who presents said Budget to the Orange County Legislature. Further, that the Town Clerk be authorized to advertise same as required by law.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Motion Carried: 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

DEBORAH GREEN
TOWN CLERK

/clc